

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
FRIENDS OF THE ELEPHANT SEAL  
A California Non-Profit Corporation

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Elephant Seal (FES), A California non-profit corporation was held on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cavalier Plaza meeting room located at 250 San Simeon.

Directors present Mary Lee Becwar, Sue Boudreau, Joan Crowder, Dave Dabritz, Ken Dunn, Kathy Hurrle, Richard Lee, recording secretary, Judy Burley. Guests: Marie Brinkmeyer from RSVP and Leander Tamoria from Ca. State Parks.

Marie Brinkmeyer from the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) spoke to the Directors. The organization is located in San Luis Obispo and refers seniors in the area to local non-profit for volunteer opportunities. These non-profits are members of RSVP. 70% of funding for RSVP is from federal sources and the National Senior Corporation (NCIS). They also receive some of their funding from the State and County. FES would join the RSVP at no cost, with no dues. They would provide a free insurance umbrella policy supplement to any FES docent who becomes a member of RSVP. There would also be a mileage reimbursement of 14 cents, capped at \$ 15.00 per month. RSVP would also assist FES with docent recruitment. They would issue press releases and place information in their quarterly newsletter.

For each FES docent that joins RSVP, hours would be reported to both organizations to use. Marie stated that there is no conflict if both groups use the hours donated by each docent. Mary Lee will check with the other non-profits who are members of RSVP and email each FES board member. If the decision is made to join, Mary Lee will contact RSVP.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that: The minutes from the March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 FES board meeting are approved.

The Board and State Parks Supervising Ranger, Leander Tamoria discussed a “point person” for the FES docents to call. For situations that would not be crowd control, 911 emergencies or animal rescue the docents will be instructed to call the Ca. State Parks dispatch. The elephants seals on Highway 1 and the Hearst Ranch this past season would be examples of such times. If seals have moved and are in the parking lot the ranger dispatch should be called. The docents will also be instructed to let the FES office know they have made the call to dispatch. Mary Lee will discuss this protocol in the upcoming May docent letter.

Kathy Hurrle discussed the recent FES Training Committee meeting. The meeting included the 2007 fall trainees. The substance of the training was good. The recent class of docents suggested more critical feedback. It was also suggested that more information on engaging the visitors be presented. Recent trainees have had a lack of connection to their fellow docents. The Training Committee will discuss these suggestions.

FES docent Ken Cumings has constructed a universal "information" sign for use at VP3. He has had great success in engaging the public with the sign. Leander would like a copy of Kens sign to view. Judy will bring the sign to the May FES Board Meeting.

The Directors agreed a June docent meeting and potluck should be held. They decided to use the Cambria Vet's Hall; which can be used at no cost. They would prefer a Friday evening after 5:00 p.m. Judy will contact the hall.

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Cavalier lower conference room. There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

---

Mary Lee Becwar, President

---

Judy Burley, recording secretary